

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph identified as paragraph [09] beginning at page 2 with the following amended paragraph:

-- [09] Archived sales data may be formatted according to one or more of a week and a product identifier number, pricing data, stock on hand, commitment and sales units, and tax rate. The data may be output into an ~~Aeeess~~-ACCESS database or an ~~Excel~~-EXCEL spreadsheet database. The archived sales data may be validated to ensure its integrity before outputting the data to a file by entering one or more of net cost prices and original selling prices. Validation may alternatively be based on checking for new products, checking file entries, or checking new sales data. --

Please replace the paragraph identified as paragraph [54] beginning at page 10 with the following amended paragraph:

-- [54] The database system 101 may include a stores legacy database 103, an index database 105, a forecasting database 107, and an option management database 109, as shown with additional reference to Fig. 3. The user processing system 120 functions to extract Hierarchy Data and Actuals Data from the database system 101 into a set of Extracted Actuals, History, and Hierarchy (EAH&H) files 130 configured as spreadsheet text files, preferably ~~Excel~~-EXCEL text files. The set of EAH&H files 130 includes Hierarchy text files 131 and Actuals text files 133. The Actuals text files 133 are formatted into Actuals tables 151 in a relational database 159, such as an ~~Aeeess~~-ACCESS database, located in a staging post repository 150. Likewise, the Hierarchy text files 131 are formatted into Hierarchy tables 152 located in the relational database 159. Additional data are included in Interim tables 155. The Actuals tables 151 and the Hierarchy tables 152 are formatted into one or more spreadsheet files 161a, 161b,...,161n, in a Formatted Files Repository 160, for retrieval and further use via the system display 117. The user utilizes the system display 117 to retrieve and display the spreadsheet files 161a, 161b,...,161n, as described in greater detail below. --